

SEL

Where the flight of fancy is managed with good judgment, the *self* is seen it is the more valuable. *Grew.*
SELDOMNESS. *n. f.* [from *sel-dom*.] Uncommonness; infrequency; rareness; rarity. Little used.
 Degrees of well-doing there could be none, except perhaps in the *selfdomness* and oftentimes of doing well. *Hooker.*
SELDSHOWN. *adj.* [*feld* and *shown*.] Seldom exhibited to view.

Seldshon flamins
 Do press among the popular throngs. *Shakesp. Coriolanus.*
 To SELECT. *v. a.* [*selektus*, Latin.] To chuse in preference to others rejected.

The footmen, *selected* out of all the provinces, were greatly diminished, being now scarce eight thousand strong. *Knolles.*
 The pious chief

A hundred youths from all his train *selected*. *Dryden.*
SELECT. *adj.* [from the verb.] Nicely chosen; choice; culled out on account of superiour excellence.

To the nuptial bow'r
 I led her, blushing like the morn: all heav'n,
 And happy constellations, on that hour
 Shed their *selectest* influence. *Milton's Parad. Lost.*
Select from vulgar herds, with garlands gay,

A hundred bulls ascend the sacred way. *Prior.*
SELECTION. *n. f.* [*selectio*, Lat. from *selekt*.] The act of culling or chusing; choice.

While we single out several dishes, and reject others, the *selection* seems but arbitrary. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
SELECTNESS. *n. f.* [from *select*.] The state of being select.

SELECTOR. *n. f.* [from *select*.] He who selects.
SELENOGRAPHICAL. *adj.* [*selenographique*, Fr. from *selenogra-*
SELENOGRAPHICK. *adj.* [*selenographia*, Gr. *σεληνη* and *γραφω*.] Belonging to selenography.

SELENOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [*selenographia*, Gr. *σεληνη* and *γραφω*.] A description of the moon.

Hevelius, in his accurate *selenography*, or description of the moon, hath well translated the known appellations of regions, seas, and mountains, unto the parts of that luminary. *Brown.*
SELF. *pronoun.* plur. *selves*. [*silba*, Gothick; *ýlf*, *ýlf*, Sax. *self*, *selve*, Dutch.]

1. Its primary signification seems to be that of an adjective: very; particular; this above others; sometimes, one's own.

Shoot another arrow that *self* way
 Which you did shoot the first. *Shakesp. Merch. of Ven.*
 The cruel ministers, by *self* and violent hands,
 Took off her life. *Shakesp. Lear.*

On these *self* hills the air is so thin, that it is not sufficient to bear up the body of a bird. *Raleigh.*
 At that *self* moment enters Palamon
 The gate of Venus. *Dryden.*

2. It is united both to the personal pronouns, and to the neutral pronoun *it*, and is always added when they are used reciprocally, or return upon themselves: as, *I did not hurt him, he hurt himself*; *the people hiss me, but I clap myself*; *thou lovest thyself, though the world loves thee*.

Self is that conscious thinking thing, which is sensible or conscious of pleasure and pain, capable of happiness and misery, and so is concerned for *itself*, as far as that consciousness extends. *Locke.*

3. It is sometimes used emphatically in the nominative case: as, *myself* will decide it; *I myself* will come; *himself* shall revenge it. This use of *self*, thus compounded, without the pronoun personal, is chiefly poetical.

4. Compounded with *him*, a pronoun substantive, *self* is in appearance an adjective: joined to *my*, *thy*, *our*, *your*, pronoun adjectives, it seems a substantive. Even when compounded with *him* it is at last found to be a substantive, by its variation in the plural, contrary to the nature of English adjectives, as *himself*, *themselves*.

5. *Myself*, *himself*, *themselves*, and the rest, may, contrary to the analogy of *my*, *him*, *them*, be used as nominatives.

6. It often adds only emphasis and force to the pronoun with which it is compounded.

Next to the knowledge of God, this knowledge of our *selves* seems most worthy of our endeavour. *Hale.*
 The fondness we have for *self*, and the relation which other things have to our *selves*, furnishes another long rank of prejudices. *Watts.*

7. It signifies the individual, as subject to his own contemplation or action.

The spark of noble courage now awake,
 And strive your excellent *self* to excel. *Fairy Queen.*
 Since consciousness always accompanies thinking, and it is that that makes every one to be what he calls *self*; and thereby distinguishes himself from all other thinking things; in this alone consists personal identity, i. e. the sameness of a rational being. *Locke.*

It is by the consciousness it has of its present thoughts and actions, that it is *self* to it *self* now, and so will be the same *self*, as far as the same consciousness can extend to actions past or to come. *Locke.*

8. It is much used in composition, which it is proper to explain

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by a train of examples. It is to be observed, that its composition in *Shakespeare* is often harsh.

Then held she her tongue, and cast down a *self* accusing look, finding that in her *self* she had shot out of the bow of her affection a more quick opening of her mind, than she minded to have done. *Sidney.*

Alas! while we are wrapt in foggy mist
 Of our *self*-love, so passions do deceive,
 We think they hurt when most they do assist. *Sidney.*

'Till Strephon's plaining voice him nearer drew,
 Where by his words his *self*-like case he knew. *Sidney.*

Ah! where was first that cruel cunning found,
 To frame of earth a vessel of the mind, *Sidney.*

Where it should be to *self*-destruction bound?
 Before the door sat *self*-consuming care, *Sidney.*

Day and night keeping wary watch and ward. *Fa. Queen.*
 My strange and *self*-abuse,

Is the initiate fear that wants hard use. *Shakesp. Macbeth.*
 I have heard so much,
 And with Demetrius thought I have spoke thereof;
 But being over-full of *self*-affairs,

My mind did lose it. *Shakesp. Midsum. Night's Dream.*
 Nor know I aught

By me that's said or done amidst this night,
 Unless *self*-charity be sometimes a vice,
 And to defend ourselves it be a sin,

When violence assails us. *Shakesp. Othello.*
 He walks, and that *self*-chain about his neck,
 Which he forswore. *Shakesp. Lear.*

It is in my power, in one *self*-born hour,
 To plant and o'erwhelm custom. *Shakesp. Winter's Tale.*

His treasons will fit blushing in his face,
 Not able to endure the sight of day,
 But *self*-affrighted tremble at his sin. *Shak. Rich. II.*

The stars above us govern our conditions;
 Else one *self*-mate and mate could not beget
 Such different issues. *Shakesp. Lear.*

I'm made of that *self*-metal as my sister,
 And prize me at her worth. *Shak. King Lear.*
 In my school-days, when I had lost one shaft,
 I shot his fellow of the *self*-same flight
 The *self*-same way, with more advised watch,
 To find the other forth. *Shakesp. Lear.*

He may do some good on her:
 A peevish *self*-will'd harlotry it is. *Shak. Romeo and Juliet.*
 But left myself be guilty of *self*-wrong,
 I'll stop mine ears against the mermaid's song. *Shakesp. Lear.*

He conjunct and flatter'd his displeasure,
 Tript me behind: being down, insulted, rail'd,
 Got praises of the king, *Shakesp. Lear.*

For him attempting who was *self*-subdu'd.
 The Everlasting fixt
 His canon 'gainst *self*-slaughter. *Shak. Hamlet.*

Know if his last purpose hold,
 Or whether since he is advis'd by aught
 To change the course? He's full of alteration,
 And *self*-reprieving. *Shakesp. King Lear.*

More or less to others paying,
 Than by *self*-offences weighing;
 Shame to him whose cruel striking,
 Kills for faults of his own liking! *Shakesp. Lear.*

Bellona's bridegroom, lapt in proof,
 Confronted him with *self*-caparisons,
 Point against point rebellious, arm 'gainst arm,
 Curbing his lavish spirit. *Shak. Macbeth.*

Self-love, my liege, is not so vile a sin
 As *self*-neglecting. *Shakesp. Henry V.*
 Anger is like
 A full hot horse, who, being allow'd his way,
Self-mettle tires him. *Shakesp. Lear.*

His lords desire him to have borne
 His bruised helmet and his bended sword
 Before him through the city; he forbids it,
 Being free from vainness and *self*-glorious pride. *Shakesp. Lear.*

You promis'd
 To lay aside *self*-harming heaviness,
 And entertain a cheerful disposition. *Shakesp. Rich. III.*

In their anger they flew a man, and in their *self*-will they
 digged down a wall. *Gen. xlix. 6.*

The most ordinary cause of a single life is liberty, especially
 in certain *self*-pleasing and humorous minds, which are so sensible
 of every restraint as to think their girdles and garters to be
 bonds and shackles. *Bacon.*

Hast thou set up nothing in competition with God; no
 pride, pleasure, profit, *self*-love, or *self*-interest of thy own? *Dugdale.*

Up through the spacious palace passed she,
 To where the king's proudly repel'd head,
 If any can be soft to tyranny,
 And *self*-to-menting sin, had a soft bed. *Cresspaw.*

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With a joyful willingness these *self*-loving reformers took
 possession of all vacant preferments, and with reluctance others
 parted with their beloved colleges and subsistence. *Warton.*

Repent the sin; but if the punishment
 Thou can't avoid, *self*-preservation bids. *Milton.*

Him fast sleeping soon he found,
 In labyrinth of many a round *self*-roll'd. *Milton.*

Oft times nothing profits more
 Than *self*-esteem, grounded on just and right,
 Well manag'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

Self-knowing, and from thence
 Magnanimous, to correspond with heav'n. *Milton.*

So virtue giv'n for lost,
 Depress'd and overthrown, as seem'd,
 Like that *self*-begotten bird,

In th' Arabian woods embosht,
 That no second knows nor third,
 And lay ere while a holocaust,

From out her airy womb now teem'd. *Milton's Agonist.*
 He sorrows now, repents, and prays contrite,
 My motions in him: longer than they move,
 His heart I know how variable and vain,
Self-left. *Milton.*

Seneca approves this *self*-homicide.
 Thyself from flatter'd *self*-conceit defend,
 Nor what thou do'st not know, to know pretend. *Denham.*

Man's that savage beast, whose mind,
 From reason to *self*-love declin'd,
 Delights to prey upon his kind. *Denham.*

Farwell, my tears;
 And my just anger be no more confin'd
 To vain complaints, or *self*-devouring silence. *Denham.*

They are yet more mad to think that men may go to rest
 by death, though they die in *self*-murder, the greatest sin.

Are not these strange *self*-delusions, and yet attested by
 common experience? *South's Sermons.*

If the image of God is only sovereignty, certainly we have
 been hitherto much mistaken, and hereafter are to beware of
 making ourselves unlike God, by too much *self*-denial and
 humility. *South's Sermons.*

If a man would have a devout, humble, sin-aborning, *self*-
 denying frame of spirit, he cannot take a more efficacious
 course to attain it than by praying himself into it. *South.*

Let a man apply himself to the difficult work of *self*-examination
 by a strict scrutiny into the whole estate of his
 soul. *South's Sermons.*

A fatal *self*-impotence, such as defeats the design, and de-
 stroys the force of all religion. *South's Sermons.*

When he intends to bereave the world of an illustrious
 person, he may cast him upon a bold *self*-opinioned physician,
 worse than his distemper, who shall make a shift to cure him
 into his grave. *South's Sermons.*

Neglect of friends can never be proved rational, till we
 prove the person using it omnipotent and *self*-sufficient, and
 such as can never need any mortal assistance. *South.*

By all human laws, as well as divine, *self*-murder has ever
 been agreed on as the greatest crime. *Temple.*

A *self*-conceited pop will swallow any thing. *L'Estrange.*
 From Atreus though your ancient lineage came;
 Yet my *self*-conscious worth, your high renown,
 Your virtue, through the neighbouring nations blown. *Dryd.*

He has given you all the commendation which his *self*-
 sufficiency could afford to any. *Dryden.*

Below yon sphere
 There hangs the ball of earth and water mixt,
Self-center'd and unmov'd. *Dryden's State of Innocence.*

All these receive their birth from other things,
 But from himself the phoenix only springs;
Self-born, begotten by the parent flame
 In which he burn'd, another and the same. *Dryden.*

The burning fire that thence so bright,
 Flew off all sudden with extinguish'd light,
 And left one altar dark, a little space;
 Which turn'd *self*-kindled, and renew'd the blaze. *Dryden.*

Thou first, O king! relate the rights of sway;
 Pow'rs *self*-restrain'd, the people best obey. *Dryden.*

Eighteen and nineteen are equal to thirty-seven, by the same
self-evidence that one and two are equal to three. *Locke.*

A contradiction of what has been said, is a mark of yet
 greater pride and *self*-conceit, when we take upon us to
 set another right in his story. *Locke.*

I am as justly accountable for any action done many years
 since, appropriated to me now by this *self*-consciousness, as I
 am for what I did the last moment. *Locke.*

Each intermediate idea agreeing on each side with those two,
 it is immediately placed between: the ideas of men and *self*-
 determination appear to be connected. *Locke.*

This *self*-existent being hath the power of perfection, as
 well as of existence in himself; for he that is above, or exist-

eth without, any cause, that is, hath the power of existence
 in himself, cannot be without the power of any possible exist-
 ence. *Grew's Cosm. Sac.*

Body cannot be *self*-existent, because it is not *self*-moving;
 for motion is not of the essence of body, because we may
 have a definitive conception of body, abstracted from that of
 motion: wherefore motion is something else besides body, and
 something without which a body may be conceived to exist. *Grew's Cosm. Sac.*

Confidence, as opposed to modesty, and distinguished from
 decent assurance, proceeds from *self*-opinion, occasioned by
 ignorance or flattery. *Collier of Confidence.*

Bewilder'd I, my author cannot find,
 'Till some first cause, some *self*-existent mind,
 Who form'd, and rules all nature, is assign'd. *Blackm.*

If a first body may to any place
 Be not determin'd in the boundless space,
 'Tis plain it then may absent be from all,
 Who then will this a *self*-existence call? *Blackmore.*

Self-preservation fall by her own hand? *Granville.*
 Low nonsense is the talent of a cold phlegmatick temper:
 a writer of this complexion gropes his way softly amongst
self-contradiction, and grovels in absurdities. *Addison.*

This fatal hypocrisy and *self*-deceit is taken notice of in
 these words, Who can understand his errors? Cleanse thou
 me from secret faults. *Addison's Spectator.*

The guilt of perjury is so *self*-evident, that it was always
 reckon'd amongst the greatest crimes, by those who were
 only governed by the light of reason. *Addison.*

Self-sufficiency proceeds from inexperience. *Addison.*
 Men had better own their ignorance than advance doctrines
 which are *self*-contradictory. *Spectator.*

Light, which of all bodies is nearest allied to spirit, is also
 most diffusive and *self*-communicative. *Norris.*

Thus we see in bodies, the more of kin they are to spirit in
 subtilty and refinement, the more spreading are they and *self*-
 diffusive. *Norris.*

God, who is an absolute spiritual act, and who is such a
 pure light as in which there is no darkness, must needs be in-
 finitely *self*-impacting and communicative. *Norris.*

Every animal is conscious of some individual, *self*-moving,
self-determining principle. *Pope and Arbuthn. Mart. Scrib.*

Nick does not pretend to be a gentleman: he is a trades-
 man, a *self*-seeking wretch. *Arbuthn. John Bull.*

By the blast of *self*-opinion mov'd,
 We wish to charm, and seek to be belov'd. *Prior.*

Living and understanding substances do most clearly
 demonstrate to philosophical inquirers the necessary *self*-
 existence, power, wisdom, and beneficence of their maker. *Bentley's Sermons.*

If it can intrinsically stir itself, and either commence or
 alter its course, it must have a principle of *self*-activity, which
 is life and sense. *Bentley's Sermons.*

This desire of existence is a natural affection of the soul;
 'tis *self*-preservation in the highest and truest meaning. *Bentley.*

The philosophers, and even the Epicureans, maintained the
self-sufficiency of the Godhead, and seldom or never sacrificed
 at all. *Bentley's Sermons.*

Matter is not endued with *self*-motion, nor with a power to
 alter the course in which it is put: it is merely passive, and
 must ever continue in that state it is settled in. *Cheyne.*

I took not arms, 'till urg'd by *self*-defence,
 The eldest law of nature. *Rousse's Emile. Stepmother.*

His labour and study would have shewn his early mistakes,
 and cured him of *self*-flattering delusions. *Watts.*

This is not to be done in a rash and *self*-sufficient manner;
 but with an humble dependance on divine grace, while we
 walk among sinners. *Watts.*

The religion of Jesus, with all its *self*-denials, virtues, and
 devotions, is very practicable. *Watts.*

I heard in Crete, this island's name;
 For 'twas in Crete, my native soil, I came
Self-banish'd thence. *Pope's Odyssey.*

Achilles's courage is furious and untractable; that of Ajax
 is heavy and *self*-confiding. *Pope.*

I doom, to fix the gallant ship,
 A mark of vengeance on the sable deep;
 To warn the thoughtless *self*-confiding train,
 No more unliens'd thus to brave the main. *Pope.*

What is loose love? a transient gust,
 A vapour fed from wild desire,
 A wand'ring *self*-consuming fire. *Pope.*

In dubious thought the king awaits,
 And *self*-considering, as he stands, debates. *Pope.*

By mighty Jove's command,
 Unwilling have I trod this pleasing land;
 For who *self*-mov'd with weary wing would sweep
 Such length of ocean? *Pope.*

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